

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/030,541

**IN THE DRAWINGS**

Please see the attached four replacement formal drawing sheets 1/4 to 4/4 in which the reference characters in Fig. 1 which are not mentioned in the description are deleted, and in which descriptive labels for the blocks of Fig. 2 have been added in new Figures 2a and 2b.

Attachments: Replacement sheets 1/4 to 4/4

**REMARKS**

Applicant requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objection to the drawings in view of the four enclosed replacement formal drawing sheets 1/4 to 4/4 in which the reference characters in Fig. 1 which are not mentioned in the description are deleted, and in which descriptive labels for the blocks of Fig. 2 have been added in new Figures 2a and 2b.

Applicant also respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objections to claims 6, 7, 8 and 10, in view of the above corrective amendments to these claims. In particular, please note that claim 6 is now dependent on claim 5, and claim 10 is now dependent on claim 9, whereby there is now proper antecedent bases for the terms in claims 6 and 10.

On pages 7 and 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 7, 9 and 10 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form and amended for proper antecedent bases.

Claim 1 has been amended to contain the limitation of the **canceled claim 7**, whereby the amended claim 1 is equivalent to the **allowable claim 7/1**. The remaining "method" claims 2-6, 9 and 10 are either directly or indirectly dependent on the **allowable** amended claim 1 (1+7), whereby **claims 1-6 and 8-10** now should be **allowed**.

Thus, the rejections of the "method" claims 1-6 and 8 has been rendered **moot**, thereby overcoming their rejections.

The "device" claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by DeLuca '721, and the device claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable (obvious) over DeLuca '721 in view of Lenhart '696.

Applicant has amended the dependent "device" claim 11 to contain the limitations from the **allowable** claim 7 (7/1) (= currently amended claim 1), whereby the dependent claim 11 (11/1) should be allowable for the same reason that claim 7 (7/1) was deemed to be allowable. In particular, Applicant has added to the end of dependent claim 11 (11/1) a "means" limitation which corresponds to the limitation in the **allowable** method claim 7.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the "device" **claims 11-13** also are now **allowable** over the prior art.

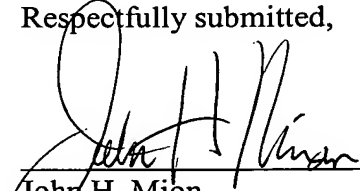
In summary, then, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all objections and rejections and to find the application to be in condition for allowance with the amended **claims 1-6 and 8-13**; however, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant files concurrently herewith a Petition (with fee) for an Extension of Time of one month. Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, and any required fee for such extension is to be

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charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or § 1.17 necessary to keep this application pending in the Patent and Trademark Office or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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